

REF ID: A65911

Approved For Release 2002/01/09 : CIA-RDP79B01709A002600020029-2

IEC-209/71
10 August 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, ICPS

SUBJECT : Request for Photo Coverage of Western Cuba to Detect Evidence of African Swine Fever (ASF)

REFERENCE : NPIC Project No. 251172, Request for NPIC Support by President's Scientific Advisory Board

1. Additional photo coverage of western Cuba is required to satisfy the referenced requirement concerning ASF in Cuba. Exploitation of OLD BEAD photography of 14 June 1971, Mission C-255, the most recent coverage of western Cuba, and missions flown prior to that date, did not reveal any significant evidence related to the Swine Fever epidemic. The three most recent missions, C-258, C-266, and C-273, did not cover the western portion of the island.

2. On 7 July 1971, the Cuban government decided that measures to contain the epidemic were inadequate and the order to slaughter all remaining hogs (approximately 200,000) in Havana Province was given. This activity is probably still in progress in an area 10 nautical miles southwest of Havana. It is also possible that the epidemic has spread to the adjacent provinces of Pinar del Rio and Matanzas.

3. Request coverage of the area west of 80° 45' W, including the provinces of Pinar del Rio, Havana, and Matanzas, as soon as possible.

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Acting Chief
Imagery Exploitation Group, NPIC

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